

found so far we would attempt to bring those under control, to get a closer handle on it, to monitor it more closely and to report to us and to the executive branch of what activity is really going on in this area. So we feel this is appropriate at this time, rather than denial will bring quite an upsetting to the workplace. There will be uncertainty among many of the workers as to where there jobs will be. Some will be subject to layoff. In actuality, most of this use is very valid. Appropriations Committee, in general, has no problem with responsible use of the temporary workers in the SOS pool, but we do think that we need to have a better understanding and control of it. We feel that is coming in the next fiscal year and so, therefore, we urge that you approve this \$750,000 spending authority for the remainder of this year and we will have a better handle on it for next year. And with that, I would entertain any questions or other comments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Pedersen, your light is on.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Speaker Withem and members of the Legislature, Senator Wehrbein, a few questions for you, please.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein, would you respond?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Is this more money than what they have been receiving in the past, for the record?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This in this year will be the highest amount of use, with this increase in spending authority to \$3.8 million will be the highest of the five years because it has been increasing, yes.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Are you aware, and for the record I want colleagues to understand and I've sent some letters out asking questions of this, are you aware of the fact that some of these part-time people that we are hiring in these departments are good employees and we use them up until their time is there and then we transfer them to another department so we don't have to make them full time? I'm real concerned and I think you are aware. I'll let you answer that question.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, we are aware and that's some of the